



CALIFORNIA
DEMOCRATIC
PARTY

September 26, 2011

Fair Political Practices Commission
Commissioner Ann Ravel, Chair
428 J Street, Suite 620
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Commissioner Ravel:

As you have undoubtedly heard, Durkee and Associates, a long-time political compliance firm, has been involved in an ongoing FBI investigation affecting hundreds of political committees and non-profit organizations throughout the state.

As these committees continue to work toward regaining control of their accounts, we ask that the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) provide appropriate time for them to sort out their affairs and to file accurate information on their reports as required by the Commission. Most of these committees have been unsuccessful in gaining access to their bank accounts. Without all the appropriate information, these committees will have a difficult time fully complying with FPPC filing requirements.

At the September 30 meeting, the California Democratic Party hopes the FPPC will consider:

- Granting an extension of the deadline for filing financial paperwork;
- Allowing donors to replace their contributions; and
- Forwarding any solutions the Commissions adopt to the Federal Elections Commission.

The CDP is also confident the Commission will consider any and all other options presented during the meeting that would help those committees and clubs that were affected adversely by this situation.

To be clear, the California Democratic Party does not contract out financial compliance reports and thankfully have remained unaffected by the recent developments. Unfortunately, not all committees have the same institutional resources available to them. This is especially true for small organizations and clubs that operate primarily with volunteers and will have a difficult time complying with the required reports in a timely manner.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. We appreciate your time and attention on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Shawnda Westly, Executive Director

cc: Commissioner Sean Eskovitz
Commissioner Elizabeth Garrett
Commissioner Lynn Montgomery
Commissioner Ronald D. Rotunda

CHAIRMAN

**SENATOR (RET)
JOHN BURTON**

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